

REMARKS

The present amendment is prepared in accordance with the new revised requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. A complete listing of all the claims in the application is shown above showing the status of each claim. For current amendments, inserted material is underlined and deleted material has a line therethrough.

Applicants appreciate the thoroughness with which the Examiner has examined the above-identified application. Reconsideration is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks below.

Claims 1, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 19 have been amended.

Claims 3, 14 and 20 have been canceled.

No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has objected to claims 3-10, 12, 14-18 and 20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, the Examiner has indicated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Accordingly, applicants have canceled claim 3 and included the limitations thereof into independent claim 1. It is submitted that independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 4-12 dependent thereon, are now in a condition for allowance. Claim 12 has also been amended to correct for antecedent basis errors.

Applicants have also amended claim 13 to include the limitations of allowable, now canceled, claim 14, as well as amended claim 13 to correct for antecedent basis errors. As such, it is submitted that claim 13, and claims 15-18 dependent thereon, are now in a condition for allowance. Further, claims 15 and 16 have been amended to correct for dependency, and claim 17 has been amended to correct for antecedent basis errors.

With respect to claim 19, applicants have canceled allowable claim 20 and included the limitations thereof into base claim 19. It is submitted that claim 19 is now in a condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that the application has now been brought into a condition where allowance of the case is proper. Reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner not find the claims to be allowable, Applicants' attorney respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned to clarify any issue and/or to place the case in condition for allowance.

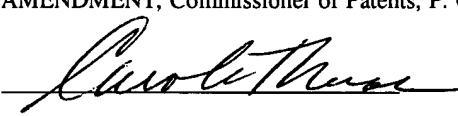
Respectfully submitted,


 Kelly M. Reynolds
 Reg. No. 47,898

DeLIO & PETERSON, LLC
 121 Whitney Avenue
 New Haven, CT 06510-1241
 (203) 787-0595
 ibmb100429000RESPRESTREQ

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Carol M. Thomas Date: April 27, 2005 Signature: 
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